

SECRET

CONTROL -- U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

From : [ ] Report Number : HLB-1773

Number of  
Pages : One Number of  
Enclosures : None

Report  
Made by : [ ] Approved by [ ]

Distribution :  
By Copy to : Washington (3) Orally to : No one

[ ] (1)  
[ ] (1)  
[ ] (2)

~~Official Information~~

Subject : Grand Mufti Tightens Security

Source  
Cryptonym : [ ]

HUAYNI, HAJJ AMIN

SOURCE, OPERATIONAL DATA, AND COMMENTS:

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2006

SECRET  
[ ]

CONTROL — U.S. OFFICIALS Y

SECRET

Subject: Grand Mufti Tightens Security      Report No: RLB-1773  
Date of Information: Current  
Place Acquired: Beirut, Lebanon      Date Acquired: 26 December 1949  
Evaluation: B-2      Date of Report: 27 December 1949  
Source: [ ]

---

1. Source states that Arab Higher Committee headquarters in Beirut are being reduced in size, and that followers of the Grand Mufti in Syria and Lebanon are being informed that they must prepare themselves to work for the Mufti without pay. The Beirut offices are being cut from ten to four rooms, and most of the office equipment is now up for sale.
2. Followers of the Mufti in Syria and Lebanon have received or are being sent forms which they are asked to sign and return to their local Arab Higher Committee office, stating that they will serve the Mufti without pay.
3. Source states that those close to the Mufti realize that this is a move designed to shake loose a great many people who pay lip service to the Mufti but who are in reality a security hazard. The Mufti is angry because there are too many infidels — especially Israeli and British — in the ranks of his followers. Source says that the Arab Higher Committee is actually not short of money, but that this action is being taken as an excuse for attempting to tighten up the organization.
4. Source says that this "trick" is supposed to go a bit further; it is supposed to indicate to Israel and Great Britain that the Mufti's power is really on the decline, whereas he is actually planning to ride into greater power by helping Shukri QUNWATI to re-emerge as head of the Syrian government in the near future.

Classification

SECRET

CONTROL — U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

FORM NO. 81-55  
FEB 1946

[ ]